

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 02237 271558Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 IO-13 SY-05 MCT-01 /076 W  
-----016691 271632Z /53

R 271530Z DEC 77  
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9931  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 2237

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, PINT, IS  
SUBJ: WEST BANK MIL GOV OFFICIAL ASSASSINATED

1. RAMALLAH RESIDENT HAMDI EL KADI, AN ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
TO THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT'S DISTRICT CHIEF OF EDUCATION,  
WAS SHOT DEAD IN HIS CAR OUTSIDE HIS HOME DECEMBER 26. PRESS  
REPORTS THAT SHOTS WERE FIRED FROM ANOTHER CAR WHICH QUICKLY  
PULLED ALONG SIDE EL KADI'S AS HE PREPARED TO GO TO WORK.  
ISRAELI RADIO SAYS PLO HAS CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY.

2. WELL INFORMED RAMALLAH SOURCES STATE EL KADI HAD MANY  
ENEMIES IN RAMALLAH ARE DATING FROM TIEM HE WAS PRINCIPAL  
OF THE HASHIMIYA SCHOOL IN NEARBY EL BIREH - AN INSTITUTION FREQUENTL  
Y  
TROUBLED BY DEMONSTRATIONS. EL KADI WAS WIDELY BELIEVED TO  
BE COLLABORATING WITH THE ISRAELI MILITARY GOVERNMENT,  
ALLEGEDLY PROVIDING THE NAMES OF STUDENTS HE SUSPECTED  
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OF FOMENTING ANTI-ISRAEL ACTIVITIES. HE HAD HELD PRESENT  
POSITION FOR SIX MONTHS.

3. THE "JERUSALEM POST" DECEMBER 27 LINKS EL KADI'S MURDER  
WITH THE KILLING OF ANOTHER UNNAMED RAMALLAH RESIDENT;  
PRESUMABLY THIS REFERS TO THE DECEMBER 5, 1977, SHOOTING OF SALIM  
EL ASMAR. AS WITH EL KADI, THE INCIDENT OCCURRED WHILE EL ASMAR

WAS GETTING INTO HIS CAR IN THE MORNING. SAME CONGEN SOURCE RECALLS RUMORS CIRCULATING ALLEGING EL ASMAR HAD "QUESTIONABLE PATRIOTISM TO THE PALESTINIANS." EL ASMAR WORKED IN THE VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE IN RAMALLAH, A POSITION WHICH REQUIRED HIM TO WORK WITH THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN THE CONTROVERSIAL FIELD OF BUILDING PERMITS ON THE WEST BANK.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH PLO HAS REPORTEDLY CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY, EL KADI HAD MANY ENEMIES IN THE RAMALLAH AREA. RECENTLY, A RAMALLAH RESIDENT WHO IS PRO-BAATHI, BUT WHO, NEVERTHELESS, PRIVATELY SUPPORTS SADAT'S INITIATIVES, EXPRESSED WORRY CONCERNING THREATS ADDRESSED TO PROMINENT WEST BANKERS WHO WERE NOT HEWING TO THE PLO LINE. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT EL KADI'S SHOOTING, COMING AFTER THAT OF EL ASMAR, WILL HAVE AN INHIBITING EFFECT ON WEST BANK PALESTINIANS WHO OTHERWISE MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO VOCALIZE SOMETHING OTHER THAN PLO LINE.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WEST BANK, ASSASSINATION, PALESTINIANS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977JERUSA02237  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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